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| 27195 7590 01/09/2008 AMIN. TUROCY & CALVIN, LLP 24TH FLOOR, NATIONAL CITY CENTER 1900 EAST NINTH STREET CLEVELAND, OH 44114 | | | EXAMINER TRAORE, FATOUMATA | |
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/729,515

Applicant(s)

ANANTHA ET AL.

Examiner

Fatoumata Traore

Art Unit

2136

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 October 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16, 18-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16, 18-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is in response to the request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, filed October 30th, 2007. Claims 1, 5, 18, and 30-32 have been amended; Claim 17 cancelled; Claims 1-16 and 18-32 are pending and have been considered below.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 31 is objected to because of the following informalities: the claim recites the limitation of a data packet comprising: on line 3 after the preamble. Appropriate correction is required.

3. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

4. Claim 30 is drawn to a computer program per se. the means for authenticating, the means for authorizing and the means for associating are performed by the verification component, which the applicant has defined in the specification (page 6, lines 10-25) to encompass: a process running on a processor, a processor, an object, an executable, a thread of execution, a program. A computer program is not a series of steps or acts and this is not a process. A computer program is not a physical article or object and as such is not a machine or manufacture. A computer program is not a combination of substances and therefore not a compilation of matter. Thus, a computer program by

itself does not fall within any of the four categories of invention. Therefore, Claim 30 is not statutory.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 31 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Corrigan et al (US 6,640,097).

Claim 31: Corrigan et al discloses a system to provide access control to individual properties of an object comprising:

- a. An application programming interface packet to identify a partner (authenticates the subscriber ID to verify that the subscriber is authorized (column 5, lines 35-40);
- b. A security credential packet to facilitate authorization of the partner (Authorized subscriber access through white and black lists) (column 5, lines 50-55); and
- c. A security parameter packet inherited by a business object to facilitate access to a subscription platform database (the data structure includes an

identifier used to indicated a specific object property or set of properties to which the permission apply) (column 3, lines 35-40).

Claim 32: Corrigan et al discloses a system to provide access control to individual properties of an object comprising:

- a. At least one security field indicating global security parameters in a subscription platform database (Authorized subscriber access through white and black lists) (column 5, lines 50-55);
- b. At least one object field associated with an account in the database (the portal comprises means for instantiating a payment management class) (column 3, lines 25-30); and
- c. At least one class field to associate the security field object(the data structure includes an identifier used to indicated a specific object property or set of properties to which the permission apply) (column 3, lines 35-40).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 1-3, 5, 6 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cheng (US 7, 096,491) in view of Swift et al (US 7,113,994).

Claim 1: Cheng discloses a system that facilitates access to a plurality of shared software objects by disparate entities, comprising:

- a. A platform component that receives a request to access an object (application) by an entity (user) (Fig. 3 item 132, Fig.5 item 132), wherein the entity requests access to an object on behalf of another entity, the entity and the another entity are each an individual human or a business;
- b. A data store that stores security information on classes of the objects (Fig. 3, item 124); and
- c. A verification component that employs the security information to verify that the entity has permission to call an Application Programming Interface (API) for the object or operate on the object (Fig. 3, item 130), the verification component permits the another entity to call or operate on the object upon verification that the entity has the permission.

But does not explicitly disclose: wherein the entity requests access to an object on behalf of another entity, the entity and the another entity are each an individual human or a business or the verification component permits the another entity to call or operate on the object upon verification that the entity has the permission. However, Swift et al discloses a system of proxy authentication in a secure network, which further discloses:

- a. Wherein the entity requests access to an object on behalf of another entity (authorized proxy client to access a service on behalf of a user) (column 2, lines 27-35), the entity and the another entity are each an individual human or a business (Fig. 7, item 70);

- b. The verification component permits the another entity to call or operate on the object upon verification that the entity has the permission (Fig. 9).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to permit an entity to call on behalf of another entity and to verify the authenticity of the entity in Chen's disclosure. One would have been motivated to verify this in order to help maintain the integrity of the system by not allowing changes to be made to the software by any entity, both known and unknown, scrupulous and unscrupulous.

Claim 2: Cheng and Swift et al discloses a system that facilitates access to a plurality of shared software objects by disparate entities as in claim 1 above, and Cheng further discloses that the verification component exposes the object is permission exists (Fig. 3, item 136).

Claim 3: Cheng and Swift et al discloses a system that facilitates access to a plurality of shared software objects by disparate entities as in claim 1 above, and Cheng further discloses that the verification component masks the object is permission does not exist (Fig. 3, item 138).

Claim 5: Cheng and Swift et al discloses a system that facilitates access to a plurality of shared software objects by disparate entities as in claim 1 above, and Cheng further discloses that the verification component facilitates that entity receive full access to Application Programming Interfaces (API's) and /or object s for which there is a business need and partial or limited access to other API's or business objects (during subscription process, the user will grant the application privileges to perform only those

functions, and to access only those resource, needed for the English to Spanish translation) (column 4, lines 54-67).

Claim 6: Cheng and Swift et al discloses a system that facilitates access to a plurality of shared software objects by disparate entities as in claim 1 above, and Cheng further discloses that the data store provides a default or determined security information related to a class (Fig. 5).

Claim 8: Cheng and Swift et al discloses a system that facilitates access to a plurality of shared software objects by disparate entities as in claim 1 above, and Swift et al further discloses that the system further comprising a proxy tenant component wherein an intermediate entity places calls into a subscription platform service on behalf of another entity and achieves access to selected objects in order for the another entity to complete a subscription purchase (authorized proxy client to access a service on behalf of a user) (column 2, lines 27-35). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combined teaching of Cheng such as to support proxies tenant callers. One would have been motivated to do in order to make the system flexible.

9. Claims 18-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Corrigan et al (US 6,640,097) in view of Beckwith et al (US 6,330,598).

Claim 18: Corrigan et al discloses a system to provide access control to individual properties of an object comprising:

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- a. Assigning security options to a class (the platform comprises means for controlling mobile subscriber access according to the security criteria) (column 2, lines 9-15); and
- b. Inheriting the security options by object members of the class (verification of subscriber access rights is an intrinsic part of the session management functions provided by the portal (column 9, lines 17-20).

But does not explicitly disclose a step of Storing one or more security options in a database, the security options related to automate billing and provisioning system wherein the security options include at least conversion of a subscription from a first type to a second type. However, Beckwith et al discloses a Global service management system, which further discloses a step of Storing one or more security options in a database, the security options related to automate billing and provisioning system wherein the security options include at least conversion of a subscription from a first type to a second type (the objects 84 in the automatic provisioning receiver class are capable of recording requests to add or delete services from subscription packages, to acknowledge that the requested service modification(s) (be they adding a service to a subscription package or deleting a service from a subscription package) have been scheduled, and to deliver the requested service modification(s) to the appropriate objects for implementing the change(s)) (column 8, lines 47-60; column 10, column 9, lines 50-65; lines 13-20). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made for Corrigan et al to include at least

a step of converting a subscription type. One would have been motivated to do in order to make the system flexible.

Claim 19: Corrigan et al and Beckwith et al disclose a system to provide access control to individual properties of an object as in claim 18 above, and Corrigan et al further discloses that the system further comprises at least one of explicit and implicit assigning the security options to object members of a class (security future such as white list or blacklist are used to authenticates access to particular services (column 5, lines 27-30).

Claim 20: Corrigan et al and Beckwith et al disclose a system to provide access control to individual properties of an object as in claim 18 above, and Corrigan et al further discloses that the system further comprises accessing database via an application programming interface (in one embodiment, the portal comprises a secure web-bases self provisioning interface comprising means for setting mobile network subscribers to select a portfolio of personalized services (column 2, lines 53-57).

Claim 21: Corrigan et al and Beckwith et al disclose a system to provide access control to individual properties of an object as in claim 20 above, and Corrigan et al further discloses a step of authorizing the API (the node controls all subscriber accesses to the network operator managed service portfolio and authenticates the ID to verify that the subscriber is authorized (column 5, lines 33-38).

Claim 22: Corrigan et al and Beckwith et al disclose a system to provide access control to individual properties of an object as in claim 21 above, and Corrigan et al further discloses that the system further comprises returning an error code if an authorization procedure fails (the push server also support the push access protocol result

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notification. It will acknowledge successful or report unsuccessful transmission and delivery of the information pushed and return a status) (column 11, lines 10-15).

Claim 23: Corrigan et al and Beckwith et al disclose a system to provide access control to individual properties of an object as in claim 21 above, and Corrigan et al further discloses a step of analyzing a simple object request (a mobile user service request reaches the node as URL request in http format, and the node presents a login screen. The user inputs access security codes and the node interfaces on the Internet side to have the required content delivered) (column 4 lines 1-10).

Claim 24: Corrigan et al and Beckwith et al disclose a system to provide access control to individual properties of an object as in claim 21 above, and Corrigan et al further discloses a step of analyzing one or more security credentials (verification of subscriber access rights is an intrinsic part of the session management functions provided by the portal (column 9, lines 15-20).

Claim 25: Corrigan et al and Beckwith et al disclose a system to provide access control to individual properties of an object as in claim 24 above, and Corrigan et al further discloses that the system further comprises employing a cache to process the credentials (portal comprises a customer care provisioning interface and a provisioning database) (column 2, lines 65-68, fig 2)

Claim 26: Corrigan et al and Beckwith et al disclose a system to provide access control to individual properties of an object as in claim 18 above, and Corrigan et al further discloses that the system further comprises a subscription platform service (the platform

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comprises means for controlling subscriber access according to security criteria (column 2, lines 5-10).

Claim 27: Corrigan et al and Beckwith et al disclose discloses a system to provide access control to individual properties of an object as in claim 18 above, and further discloses that the security options are associated with default security parameters (a generic subscriber class which is defined within the portal and represents common characteristics of all subscribers) (column 8, lines 44-48).

Claim 28: Corrigan et al and Beckwith et al disclose discloses a system to provide access control to individual properties of an object as in claim 18 above, and Corrigan et al further discloses that the system further comprises overriding default security parameters with other options (from the generic subscriber class are derived many subscriber sub-class that allow the portal to manage subscriber profiles across a wide range of different technologies) (column 8, lines 47-50).

Claim 29: Corrigan et al and Beckwith et al disclose discloses a system to provide access control to individual properties of an object as in claim 18 above, and Corrigan et al further discloses that the system further comprises employing an intermediate proxy that places call in a subscription on behalf of another tenant (the wireless application protocol (WAP) is a complete WAP capable mobile stations to access applications and services which may be hosted either within the network operator's own domain or in another location (column 10, lines 50-55).

10. Claims 4, 7 and 13-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cheng (US 7,096,491) in view of Swift et al (US 7,113,994) in further view of Corrigan et al (US 6,640,097).

Claim 4: Cheng and Swift et al discloses a system that facilitates access to a plurality of shared software objects by disparate entities as in claim 1 above, while neither of them explicitly discloses that the system further comprise a subscription platform to facilitate automated billing and provisioning accounts. However, Corrigan et al discloses a similar system, which discloses a subscription platform to facilitate automated billing and provisioning accounts (column 4, lines 45-50). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combined teaching of Cheng and Swift et al such as to include a subscription platform to facilitating automated billing and provisioning accounts. One would have been motivated to do so in order to facilitate accounts management.

Claim 7: Cheng and Swift et al discloses a system that facilitates access to a plurality of shared software objects by disparate entities as in claim 6 above, while neither of them explicitly discloses that the system further comprise a component to override the default security information with higher or different security options. However, Corrigan et al discloses a similar system, which further comprises a component to override the default security information with higher or different security options (from the generic subscriber class are derived many subscriber sub-class that allow the portal to manage subscriber profiles across a wide range of different technologies) (column 8, lines 47-50). I

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time

the invention was made to modify the combined teaching of Cheng and Swift et al such as to override default security with higher or different security options. One would have been motivated to do in order to make the system efficient.

Claim 13: Cheng and Swift et al discloses a system that facilitates access to a plurality of shared software objects by disparate entities as in claim 1 above, while neither of them explicitly discloses that the system further comprises at least one of a sign-up API caller, an account management API caller, and a customer care API caller. However, Corrigan et al discloses a similar system, which further discloses a customer care provisioning interface including a device provisioning function which enables the operator to ensure that content is matched to the device type (column 5, lines 10-15). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combined teaching of Cheng and Swift et al such as to include a customer care API caller. One would have been motivated to do in order to simplify service management.

Claim 14: Cheng, Swift et al and Corrigan et al discloses a system that facilitates access to a plurality of shared software objects by disparate entities as in claim 13 above, Corrigan et al further discloses disclose that the system further comprises at least one API related to at least of a sign-up API group, an account management API group, a customer care API group, and object designer API group (to provide access control to individual properties that further a customer care provisioning interface including a device provisioning function which enables the operator to ensure that content is matched to the device type) (column 5, lines 10-15). Therefore, it would have

been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combined teaching of Cheng and Swift et al such as to include a customer care API group. One would have been motivated to do in order to make the system efficient.

Claim 15: Cheng and Swift et al discloses a system that facilitates access to a plurality of shared software objects by disparate entities as in claim 1 above, while neither of them explicitly discloses that the system further comprises an authorization logic that determines whether an API can access an object via an access rights set. However, Corrigan et al discloses a similar system, which further discloses that the system further comprises an authorization logic that determines whether an API can access an object via an access rights set (to provide access control to individual properties that further discloses a node acting as a service manager for mobile subscriber. It controls all subscriber accesses to the network operators managed service portfolio and authenticates the subscriber ID to verify that the subscriber is authorized to access a particular service before opening a secure connection) (column 5, lines 35-40).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combined teaching of Cheng and Swift et al such as to include an authorization component. One would have been motivated to do so in order to restrict and control access to various components and services provides within the system.

Claim 16: Cheng and Swift et al discloses a system that facilitates access to a plurality of shared software objects by disparate entities as in claim 1 above, while neither of

them explicitly discloses that the system further comprises at least one of a restricted audience offer, a conversion component, and a payment instrument component.

However, Corrigan et al discloses a similar system, which further discloses that the system further comprises at least one of a restricted audience offer, a conversion component, and a payment instrument (to provide access control to individual properties that further discloses a payment management class from which are derived two sub-classes post-paid and pre-paid) (column 10, lines 20-25). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combined teaching of Cheng and Swift et al such as to include a payment component. One would have been motivated to do so in order to restrict and control access to various components and services provides within the system.

11. Claims 9-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cheng (US 7, 096,491) in view of Swift et al (US 7,113,994) in further view of Garg et al (US 6,289,458).

Claim 9: Cheng and Swift et al discloses a system that facilitates access to a plurality of shared software objects by disparate entities as in claim 1 above, while neither of them explicitly discloses a management portal to facilitate authorization. However Garg et al discloses a system to provide access control to individual properties of an object, which comprises a management portal to facilitate authorization (file system manger maintains and coordinates access to file system) (column 7, lines 25-29). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made

to modify the combined teaching of Cheng and Swift et al such as to include a management portal. One would have been motivated to do so in order to help maintain the integrity of the system by not allowing changes to be made to the software by any entity, both known and unknown, scrupulous and unscrupulous.

Claim 10: Cheng and Swift et al discloses a system that facilitates access to a plurality of shared software objects by disparate entities as in claim 1 above, while neither of them explicitly discloses a component to provide an explicit security mapping for an object. However, Garg et al discloses a system to provide access control to individual properties of an object which, further comprises a component to provide an explicit security mapping for an object (the access control list contains zero or more access control entries, which define the access control applied to the object. Each entry in the list defines a set of permission to be applied to a particular UUSERID or GROUPEID with respect to either the object as a whole or individual properties of object. Desirably the order of entries in the access control list is significant) (column 8, lines 35-55).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combined teaching of Cheng and Swift et al such as to include a management portal. One would have been motivated to verify this in order to help maintain the integrity of the system by not allowing changes to be made to the software by any entity, both known and unknown, scrupulous and unscrupulous.

Claim 11: Cheng and Swift et al discloses a system that facilitates access to a plurality of shared software objects by disparate entities as in claim 1 above, while neither of them explicitly discloses a component to enable an implicit security mapping from an

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explicit mapped object or to derive an implicit security permission by utilizing related objects. However, Garg et al discloses a system to provide access control to individual properties of an object as in claim 1, above and further comprises a component to enable an implicit security mapping from an explicit mapped object or to derive an implicit security permission by utilizing related objects (security descriptor provides details on the security and access control applicable to object (column 8, lines 25-30). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combined teaching of Cheng and Swift et al such as to include a management portal.. One would have been motivated to verify this in order to help maintain the integrity of the system by not allowing changes to be made to the software by any entity, both known and unknown, scrupulous and unscrupulous.

Claim 12: Cheng and Swift et al discloses a system that facilitates access to a plurality of shared software objects by disparate entities as in claim 1 above, while neither of them explicitly discloses that the verification component employs operating system identities to facilitate security authorization procedures. However, Garg et al discloses a system to provide access control to individual properties of an object which, further discloses the verification component employs operating system identities to facilitate security authorization procedures (security descriptor contains various properties including the owner security identifier and access control list) (column 8, lines 27-30). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combined teaching of Cheng and Swift et al such as to include a management portal. One would have been motivated to verify this in

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order to help maintain the integrity of the system by not allowing changes to be made to the software by any entity, both known and unknown, scrupulous and unscrupulous.

12. Claim 30 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Corrigan et al (US 6,640,097) in view of Swift et al (US 7,113,994).

Claim 30: **Corrigan et al** discloses a system to provide access control to individual properties of an object comprising:

- i. Means for authenticating at least one entity attempting access to an online billing and service,; (subscriber authentication) (column 4, line 33);
- ii. Means for authorizing the at least one entity and authorizing the another entity upon authorization of the at least one entity (authorities subscriber access through white and black lists) (column 5, lines50-55)); and
- iii. Means for associating a security parameter with at least one business object from a globalize region of database (the data structure includes an identifier used to indicated a specific object property or set of properties to which the permission apply) (column 3, lines 35-40).

But does not explicitly discloses that wherein the at least one entity is attempting access on behalf of another entity, the entity and the another entity are each an individual human or business. However, Swift et al discloses a system of proxy authentication in a secure network, which further discloses wherein the entity requests access to an object on behalf of another entity (authorized proxy client to access a service on behalf of a user) (column 2, lines 27-35). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having

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ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to permit an entity to call on behalf of another entity and to verify the authenticity of the entity in Corrigan et al's disclosure. One would have been motivated to verify this in order to help maintain the integrity of the system by not allowing changes to be made to the software by any entity, both known and unknown, scrupulous and unscrupulous.

Response to Arguments

13. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-16 and 18-32 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Fatoumata Traore whose telephone number is (571) 270-1685. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Thursday from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and every other Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nassar G. Moazzami, can be reached on (571) 272 4195. The fax phone number for Formal or Official faxes to Technology Center 2100 is (571) 273-8300. Draft or Informal faxes, which will not be entered in the application, may be submitted directly to the examiner at (571) 270-2685.


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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group Receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2100.

FT

Thursday, January 3rd, 2008

Nassar G. Moazzami
Supervisory Patent Examiner


1/3/08